Docket No. 000004.00680

#### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ge application of: Tsutomu SAKURAI et al.

Serial No: 10/646,841 Filed: August 25, 2003

Confirmation No. 1469 Examiner: Unassigned

GAU: 2874

For: OPTICAL FIBER ASSEMBLY HAVING HERMETIC SEAL PORTION AND METHOD FOR

MAKING THE SAME

### SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant(s) wish to disclose the following information.

REFE	ERENCES
$\boxtimes$	The applicant(s) wish to make of record the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449. Copies
	of the listed references are attached, where required, as are either statements of relevancy or any
	readily available English translations of pertinent portions of any non-English language references.
П	A check is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

# RELATED CASES Attached is a copy of applicant's pending application(s) or issued patent(s) which may be related to the present application. These documents are listed on form PTO-1449, also attached. A check is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p). CERTIFICATION

Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited for the first time in any communication from a foreign patent office in any counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.
 No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited for the first time in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR \$1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filling of this statement.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the subject patent application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.

#### **PETITION**

Applicant(s) hereby request consideration of the attached information. A check is attached in the amount of the Petition fee required under 37 CFR §1.17(i)(1).

#### **DEPOSIT ACCOUNT**

Please charge any additional fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to deposit account number 23-2185. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Blank Rome LLP 600 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20037 Tel: (202) 772-5800

Fax (202) 572-8398 Customer No.: 27557

Date: December 23, 2004

Michael D. White Attorney of Record Registration No. 32,795 DEC 2 3 2004 W

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

Sheet

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

of 2

Complete if Known					
Application Number	10/646,841				
Filing Date	August 25, 2003				
First Named Inventor	Tsutomu SAKURAI et al.				
Art Unit	2874				
Examiner Name	Unassigned				
Attorney Docket Number	000004 00680				

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1		Publication Date	Name of Patentee or	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where			
iiiuais		Number-Kind Code <sup>2 (if known)</sup>	MM-DD-YYYY	Applicant of Cited Document	Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear			
		US-2002/0051617	May 2, 2002	Khan et al.				
		US-5,305,413	April 19, 1994	Payne				
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS										
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document  Country Code <sup>3-</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T⁵				
			02/25/1988	Licentia GmbH						
			<u> </u>							
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Examiner Signature			Date Considered	

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE spond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

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	ICODIATION D			Application Number	10/646,841		
	IFORMATION D	_		Filing Date	August 25, 2003		
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	(Use as many sheets	as nece	essary)	Art Unit	2874		
				Examiner Name	Unassigned		
Sheet 2 of 2		Attorney Docket Number	000004.00680				

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS							
Examiner nitials*	Cite No.¹ Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (bo magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.						
		"Strain Relief for Optical Fibers at Entrance or Exit From a Duct," IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin, IBM Corp., New York, US, Vol. 32, No. 11, 1 April 1990, pages 389-390.					
		European Search Report, December 1, 2004					
		·					
Examiner		Date					

Examiner Signature	Date Considered		

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<sup>\*</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.